

REMARKS

This amendment is submitted in response to the Examiner's Action dated January 5, 2006. Claims 1, 3, 5, 8, 10, 12, 15-19 have been amended and claims 6-7, 13-14, and 20-21 have been canceled. Claims 1-5, 8-12, and 15-19 are currently pending.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 6,832,184, issued to Blier, Jr. et al. (hereinafter *Blier*). Regarding the grounds for rejecting independent claims 1, 8, and 15, the Office Action asserts that *Blier* discloses method steps including: delivering an instrumentation or design verification event list to a simulation server; computing a first (script) identifier or digital signature for the instrumentation or design as being associated with a simulation model (col. 8, line 65 to col. 9, line 28; col. 11, lines 34-59; cols. 12-14); and in response to receiving simulation data from the simulation client, utilizing the identifier or the digital signature to associate the simulation data with the simulation model (cols. 11-14).

Independent claims 1, 8, and 15 have been amended to more clearly characterize and distinguish Applicants' proposed invention from the subject matter disclosed by *Blier*. Namely, claim 1 (and similarly for claims 8 and 15) has been amended to more specifically characterize the simulation model to be a hardware description language (HDL) simulation model. *Blier* does not relate nor is applicable to an HDL batch simulation farm in which simulation clients communicate with an instrumentation server to process HDL simulation data as now expressly required by the claim language.

Amendments to the claim body have also been made including amended and added steps to more clearly characterize Applicants' invention. No new matter has been added and ample support is provided in Applicants' specification, particularly with reference to FIGS. 16A and 17A-17C. Specifically, the "hardware description language (HDL) simulation model" is supported with reference to FIG. 4D (HDL simulation model 480) and FIG. 17A (simulation model 1700). See also pg. 95, lines 10-13. The step of "delivering an instrumentation eventlist from said simulation client to said instrumentation server, wherein said eventlist contains

instrumentation event information for said HDL simulation model” is supported with reference to FIG. 17C, step 1770, pg. 96, lines 8-10.

The step of “within said instrumentation server, computing a first digital signature that uniquely identifies contents of said instrumentation eventlist as being associated with said HDL simulation model” is supported with reference to FIG. 17C, step 1772, pg. 96, lines 10-14.

The step of “within said simulation client, collecting aggregate instrumentation event information resulting from simulation of said HDL simulation model, wherein said aggregate instrumentation event information is included within said simulation data” is supported at pg. 93, lines 17-19; and with reference to FIG. 17B (aggregate packet 1750 having CRC digital signature 1752 and data field 1753 containing aggregate instrumentation data for model 1700).

The step of “generating an aggregate instrumentation event packet that includes said aggregate instrumentation event information and further includes a second digital signature that identifies said aggregate instrumentation event information” is supported with reference to FIG. 17B (aggregate packet 1750 having CRC digital signature 1752 and data field 1753 containing aggregate instrumentation data for model 1700).

The step of “delivering said aggregate instrumentation packet to said instrumentation server” is supported with reference to FIG. 17B, step 1774, pg. 96, lines 16-17.

The compound step of “in response to said instrumentation server receiving said aggregate instrumentation packet:

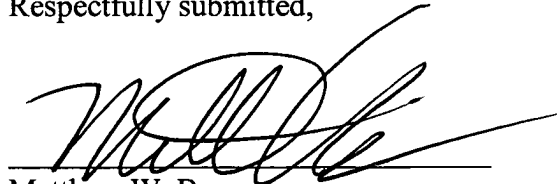
- comparing the second digital signature with the first digital signature;
- responsive to the second digital signature matching the first digital signature, processing said aggregate instrumentation packet within said instrumentation server; and
- responsive to the second digital signature not matching the first digital signature, discarding said aggregate instrumentation packet” is supported with reference to FIG. 17C, steps 1778, 1780, 1782, pg. 96, line 19 through pg. 97, line 3.

Since *Blier* includes no disclosure relating to HDL simulation models or simulation batch farms environments in which HDL simulation models are or could be processed, it follows that amended claims 1, 8, 15, and all claims depending therefrom are patentably distinct from the

disclosure of *Bierl*. Applicants therefore request a Notice of Allowance for all presently pending claims.

Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned Applicants' representative at 512.343.6116 if such would further or expedite the prosecution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Baca', written over a horizontal line.

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